

## SOUND DEATH KNEEL FOR KOCH'S THEORY

Resolutions Adopted at Closing Session of Tuberculosis Congress.

(Continued from First Page.)

to the conclusions of the scientific men. The change in the status of the men of science during the last century has been immeasurable. One hundred years ago he was treated as an interesting virtuoso, a man capable of giving amusement, but whom no practical man treated as standing on the same footing of equality.

"Now more than ever it is understood that the great danger to the advancement of the human race in material things lies in the close relationship between men of practical affairs and men of science. I feel that no gathering could take place fraught with greater hope for the welfare of the people than this. I think you all for what you have done and are doing. On behalf of the nation I greet you, and I hope you will understand how much we have appreciated your coming here."

### Sound the Death Knell Of Dr. Koch's Theory

The death knell of the theory of Dr. Robert Koch, of Berlin, that bovine tuberculosis is rarely if ever communicated to man, was sounded today when at the closing session of the sixth international congress on tuberculosis, held at the New National Museum, a resolution was adopted recognizing the intertransmissibility of bovine and human bacilli.

What has probably been the most mooted question before the scientists of the medical world for many years is thus disposed of, so far as the preponderance of scientific opinion is concerned.

Not a word of opposition was heard in the great hall of the museum building as the vote was put and the resolution unanimously approved, but in the committee on resolutions it was adopted, half an hour before, only after a desperate resistance on the part of the German delegates.

#### The Resolution.

The resolution was as follows: "That preventive measures be taken against the spread of bovine tuberculosis and that the communication of the bovine bacilli to man be recognized."

As the resolution was read a hush came over the thousands assembled in the vast assembly hall. In those few words was spelled the result of thousands of years of medical research.

Such a decision of vital importance to the entire world, a decision involving millions of lives annually, has never before been made by such a jury. A second after the resolution was adopted a murmur of whispering swept through the hall. All knew that it was a great blow to Dr. Koch, hitherto the foremost figure in the great fight against the great white plague. All knew it snatched off some of the leaves that made up the laurel wreath which has adorned his brow so long. But it affects merely one of his theories, for the great German scientist is still one of the leading figures in the world-wide fight. It does not detract a whit from his wonderful work in the isolation of the bacilli, and other remarkable discoveries.

Many other resolutions were adopted by the congress in its closing session, carrying measures of vast importance to the medical world, as the congress approved among other things, of compulsory registration of tuberculosis cases, the establishment of government hospitals and sanatoria, strict preventive measures by physicians, registration of sanitary conditions of homes and factories, and regulation of hours of labor, and the taking of measures by the schools and colleges, and municipal playgrounds.

#### Meet Next in Rome.

The next international congress will be held in Rome in 1911, during the fiftieth anniversary of the formation of the Italian union, and the selection of Rome as the political capital of the nation.

Dr. Stella, who heads the Italian delegation to the congress, read to the gathering a formal invitation from the King of Italy, through the Italian ambassador, to hold the congress at Rome in 1911.

"The universities, the medical schools, and the public of Italy will be happy and proud to welcome you to the Eternal City, and they will show you what Italy has done and is doing in the fight against tuberculosis. The choice should please every one, for the history of Rome is the history of the greatest culture. Do not think that in visiting Rome you go to see something of antiquity. Do not look upon Rome as an old curiosity shop."

The closing session of the Congress was called to order and presided over by Secretary Corroli, as the representative of President Roosevelt. As on the opening day, the great assembly hall of the New National Museum was crowded with a vast throng of foreign and American delegates and visitors, numbering among them the leaders in the great world-wide fight against the greatest enemy of mankind. The hall was decorated with a profusion of national flags and emblems, and the Marine Band discoursed the national airs of the countries represented.

Following the formal vote, deciding upon Rome as the next meeting place of the Congress, the resolutions which had been adopted by the resolutions committee were read. The chairman of the committee stepped to the front of the platform. An intense silence pervaded the hall while the resolutions were read.

While it was anticipated that some action would be taken in regard to Dr. Koch's theory, it was not generally expected that the committee would go so far.

The first resolution called the attention of State and municipal governments to the necessity for obligatory notices of all cases of tuberculosis by physicians, the registration of such cases, and the taking of measures by the public health authorities to prevent the spread of the disease.

That all governments should establish hospitals for the treatment of advanced stages, and sanatoria for incipient cases, was the purpose of the second resolutions.

#### Interest Intense.

The resolution recognizing the intertransmissibility of bovine and human bacilli came next. When the chairman of the committee on resolutions began the reading of this resolution—by far the most important action taken by the

## WANTS A HEALTH BUREAU WITH BUT A SINGLE HEAD

Dr. Pettyjohn, of Chicago, Thinks Department of National Scope a Necessity.

### WOULD AID FIGHT ON WHITE PLAGUE

Praises Public Health and Marine Service, But Says Its Facilities Are Not Adequate.

A national health bureau or department, under the direction of a single head or a commission, for the purpose of studying the public health problems of the country and carrying health regulations into effect, is an absolute necessity, says Dr. E. L. Pettyjohn, of Chicago, who heads the official delegation of the associated fraternal societies of the United States, to the tuberculosis congress.

Dr. Pettyjohn, who is a specialist on tuberculosis, is of the opinion that the Government should conduct research work along broader lines than it is now doing, through the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, and declares that it is not keeping pace with European countries, notably Germany, in this direction.

"While we have been paying great attention to the subject of tuberculosis in cattle, and while, through our Agricultural Department, we have been doing excellent work in the veterinary line, comparatively little has been done by the Government for the advancement of medical science for humanity," he said today at the Raleigh Hotel.

"Germany is away ahead in this work, for the German Government takes a keen interest in the advancement of medical knowledge, and encourages research work."

#### Meets With Great Approval.

"The physicians of the United States are alive to this, and I believe the projected national public health bureau meets with universal approval."

"No complaint is being made of the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service. With the means they have and the scope to which they are restricted, the service has done admirable work. That service, as it is well organized and with many able men, could do great work if it were supported in the proper manner."

Dr. Pettyjohn is considered an authority on insurance subjects, having been a member of the Knights and Ladies of Security, with headquarters at Topeka, Kan., for many years. He is at the head of a committee of three prominent physicians who are planning the establishment of a sanatorium in Chicago for the order, and when completed, will be in complete charge of it. He studied tuberculosis in Germany and Vienna for many years, and is an expert on the treatment of the disease. He is the head of the work of thousands of medical examiners for insurance companies.

Dr. Pettyjohn has had an unusual opportunity to study the causes of death with a wide scope of observation.

He declares that while the layman seems to have a horror of such diseases as smallpox and leprosy, there are insignificant compared with tuberculosis. "Tuberculosis is the worst enemy mankind has," he said today. "People fear smallpox, but in thirteen years out of 100,000 persons who comprise the membership of the order of which I am medical director there has been only four deaths from that disease. On the other hand, between 20 and 25 per cent of the deaths were due to tuberculosis. And the mortality of this disease may be better realized when it is added that none of these people had the disease when they were examined for admission. They were comparatively a selection of the healthy."

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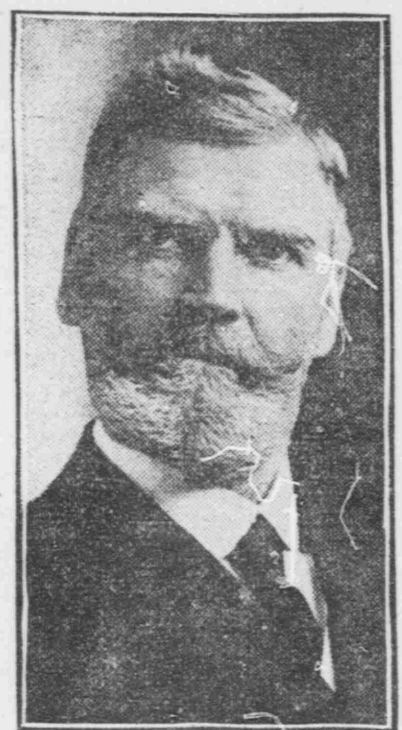
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## SOUTHLAND SLIDES DOWN WAYS TO BAY

Norfolk and Washington Steamboat Company's New Ship Is Launched.

Before almost 100 Washingtonians and in the presence of a large crowd of spectators, the latest addition to the fleet of Washington and Norfolk steamers, the Southland, of the Norfolk and Washington Steamboat Company, was launched from the shipyards of the Newport News Shipbuilding Company.

Last night, the owners of this new boat, which it is understood, will replace, when put in commission, one of the steamers now used between the Virginia coast points and the Capital, under their personal supervision, conducted an excursion of Washingtonians to Newport News and Old Point Comfort, the members of which witnessed the launching this afternoon.

The excursionists left Washington at 8:30 o'clock on the steamer Newport News, and arrived at Old Point Comfort this morning. Breakfast was enjoyed at the Chamberlin Hotel, and for several hours, the excursionists wandered about this hostelry, the guests of George F. Adams, its manager.

Shortly after 11 o'clock the crowd of sightseers left the Chamberlin Hotel for the shipyards of the Newport News Company.

According to schedule, the new steamer was launched shortly after 1 o'clock, and the launching was followed by a banquet to the invited guests at the Warwick Hotel, in Newport News.

The excursionists will once more board the good ship Newport News late in the afternoon, once more running as a special boat, and will start for Washington, where it is expected they will arrive tomorrow morning about 7 o'clock.

The management of the Norfolk and Washington Company took every precaution that its guests might be well housed, well fed, and well looked after. The management announces that all the furnishings, "the movable parts" of the steamer, were obtained from W. B. Moses & Sons.

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